



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending September 27, 2015

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Excellent week for field work: New England averaged 7.0 days suitable for field work last week.

Dry, warm conditions were predominant last week throughout the New England region although some seasonable, mildly cooler temperatures began to roll in along with some sporadic frosts in areas. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from six degrees below normal to five degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 0.12 inches. More third and fourth cuttings of hay and haylage took place with the dry weather last week. Field corn for silage harvesting continued to progress. Late sweet corn was still being harvested although it should wrap up soon. The potato crop was reported as looking good and well underway. Apples were late to color; however, they are doing well and plentiful. In Massachusetts, cranberries received the cooler conditions they had been waiting for with good coloration setting in. Irrigating continued along with the harvest of cabbage, tomatoes, acorn squash, kale, Brussel Sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins among other vegetable crops. As such, farmers' markets remained busy.

Crop Conditions as of September 27, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	12	56	32
CORN	1	3	22	68	6
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	10	73	12
DRY HAY	1	4	23	59	13
PASTURE AND RANGE	4	16	41	35	4
PEARS	0	0	22	78	0
POTATOES	0	0	2	27	71
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	1	7	26	47	19

Crop Progress as of September 27, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	53
BARLEY (ME): HARVESTED	90
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	30
CRANBERRIES (MA): HARVESTED	5
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	74
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	20
FALL TILLAGE: SINGLE	18
OATS (ME): HARVESTED	88
PEACHES: HARVESTED	96
PEARS: HARVESTED	43
POTATOES: HARVESTED	51
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	94

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 27, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	5	29	61	5
SUBSOIL	8	29	59	4

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on "Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin."

September 27, 2015 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	74	37	56	-2	0.00	0	20.87	-0.28	72	2318	+213	3941
	Bangor_Intl_Air	76	34	54	-3	0.05	1	15.27	-4.15	76	2177	+202	3762
	Bethel	77	32	53	-3	0.00	0	21.64	-1.91	69	2035	+155	3605
	Bridgton	74	34	53	-2	0.00	0	23.92	+0.84	64	2001	+300	3589
	Caribou_Municip	74	32	52	+2	0.00	0	18.70	-1.54	82	1893	+422	3417
	Dover-Foxcroft	76	33	52	+1	0.00	0	26.08	+3.84	86	1962	+468	3497
	Durham	78	34	56	0	0.00	0	18.24	-3.69	76	2099	+164	3700
	East_Surry	73	37	55	-1	0.00	0	17.43	-4.31	69	1830	-3	3373
	Eustis	70	29	48	-3	0.00	0	19.32	-1.74	71	1527	+381	2960
	Frenchville	73	32	51	+2	0.00	0	18.24	-2.47	78	1618	+264	3097
	Harmony	77	32	53	0	0.05	1	24.38	+2.60	83	2039	+299	3601
	Houlton	73	30	50	-1	0.10	1	19.16	-0.83	74	1858	+354	3364
	Livermore_Falls	74	29	51	-2	0.00	0	22.23	-1.27	70	1976	+461	3532
	Machias	74	34	54	-1	0.07	1	20.78	-2.46	74	1849	+401	3325
	Millinocket_Wtr	75	31	51	-3	0.04	1	24.39	+2.07	75	1810	+69	3299
	Moosehead	74	33	51	+1	0.00	0	22.91	+0.13	81	1792	+493	3299
	Portland_ME	74	35	57	+2	0.00	0	18.55	-2.18	59	2417	+529	4073
	Rangely_2NW	70	29	48	-3	0.00	0	21.29	-0.53	82	1455	+162	2857
	Sanford	74	34	55	-3	0.00	0	17.65	-5.20	44	2346	+172	3946
	Topsfield_2	72	37	54	+1	0.12	1	22.85	+0.23	75	1937	+266	3463
	Turner	77	41	55	-3	0.00	0	21.62	+0.09	69	2233	-39	3839
	Wesley_2W	70	31	51	-3	0.00	0	24.90	+4.32	58	2007	+323	3556
	West_Rockport	75	34	55	-1	0.00	0	18.16	-4.71	77	2130	+360	3702
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	72	32	50	-4	0.00	0	20.94	-0.64	76	1846	+212	3387
	Bradford_2	74	28	52	-5	0.00	0	18.24	-4.58	56	2022	+16	3596
	Colebrook	72	32	50	-3	0.02	1	28.04	+5.45	100	1576	+79	3033
	Concord	79	34	56	+1	0.00	0	17.43	-1.48	59	2686	+574	4339
	East_Milford	76	32	55	-3	0.00	0	17.93	-4.31	51	2535	+280	4187
	Epping	77	29	55	-3	0.00	0	15.34	-6.42	57	2495	+357	4127
	Errol_AP	73	32	50	-2	0.00	0	23.80	+2.98	81	1701	+349	3168
	Fitzwilliam	76	36	57	+3	0.00	0	20.65	-1.69	74	2501	+721	4142
	Greenville	72	32	53	-2	0.00	0	23.12	+0.78	49	2245	+465	3855
	Hancock	82	35	54	-2	0.00	0	27.25	+4.27	75	2219	+269	3815
	Jefferson	68	34	50	-4	0.01	1	27.88	+5.76	92	1942	+240	3488
	Keene_AG	77	34	56	0	0.00	0	21.96	+0.31	61	2414	+378	4032
	Lakeport_2	74	35	56	-2	0.00	0	21.65	+0.34	58	2416	+211	4040
	Lebanon	76	37	56	+2	0.00	0	18.29	-0.94	61	2569	+594	4203
	North_Conway	74	34	52	-3	0.00	0	20.14	-3.40	72	2041	+84	3617
	Tamworth_4	72	29	50	-3	0.00	0	22.18	-3.67	69	1833	+286	3380
	Wolfeburro	71	42	57	0	0.00	0	18.14	-3.17	61	2438	+233	4068
Vermont	Bennington_AP	76	36	56	+3	0.00	0	13.38	12.91	60	2475	+843	4131
	Burlington_Intl	78	38	58	+3	0.00	0	22.37	+1.29	75	2847	+667	4508
	Corinth	68	32	50	-5	0.00	0	26.43	+6.79	73	1761	+2	3271
	Island_Pond	73	29	52	+2	0.00	0	26.26	+2.81	94	1820	+367	3313
	Johnson_2N	71	34	51	-2	0.00	0	24.28	+1.28	80	1815	+185	3362
	Marlboro_Raws	71	37	54	+2	0.00	0	21.16	-0.39	65	2222	+630	3827
	Montpelier_AP	71	34	53	-2	0.00	0	24.83	+5.19	85	2088	+329	3647
	Newport_AG	73	34	52	-4	0.00	0	28.29	+5.99	86	1995	-14	3535

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	76	38	54	0	0.00	0	23.66	-1.45	69	2175	+470	3764
	Rutland_AG	75	36	54	-3	0.00	0	18.92	-3.56	76	2193	+114	3782
	Springfield_VT	74	36	55	+2	0.00	0	17.59	-6.24	65	2444	+590	4072
	South_Lincoln	70	32	51	-1	0.00	0	24.90	-1.67	68	1772	+352	3281
	Sutton	73	34	52	+2	0.00	0	27.31	+3.86	95	1836	+383	3351
	Walden	67	31	49	-3	0.00	0	26.96	+3.51	91	1478	+25	2910
	Woodstock	77	37	54	0	0.00	0	22.97	+1.59	61	2295	+420	3887
Massachusetts	Amherst	78	38	59	+1	0.00	0	5.67	-4.00	13	1154	1140	1871
	Barre_Falls_Dam	76	31	55	+1	0.00	0	4.93	-3.67	17	849	-927	1504
	Bedford_Hanscom	76	32	56	-3	0.00	0	1.98	-6.19	11	1048	1304	1701
	Beverly_Ag	73	36	56	-6	0.00	0	1.64	-6.55	10	675	1846	1063
	Birch_Hill_Dam	77	36	55	+2	0.00	0	3.67	-4.34	13	902	-903	1561
	Boston_Logan_In	75	48	61	-1	0.00	0	2.01	-5.22	12	1150	1531	1802
	Chatham_AP	76	45	61	0	0.01	1	3.16	-5.07	11	943	1033	1586
	Chicopee_Westov	78	32	57	-1	0.00	0	2.39	-6.50	11	1074	1220	1731
	Edgartown	77	41	62	+2	0.00	0	4.38	-3.33	8	708	1568	1058
	East_Brimfield_	74	36	57	0	0.00	0	3.52	-5.05	11	1002	1096	1682
	Fitchburg	78	36	58	0	0.00	0	2.90	-5.88	12	1176	1213	1832
	Greenfield	77	39	58	0	0.00	0	5.95	-4.63	22	1281	1013	2068
	Hyannis_AP	77	42	60	0	0.00	0	2.99	-4.14	8	997	1214	1645
	Maynard	76	37	58	-1	0.00	0	4.01	-3.40	13	692	1660	1062
	New_Bedford	79	39	60	-4	0.00	0	4.39	-4.03	7	1018	1693	1674
	Newburyport	74	36	57	-3	0.00	0	0.96	-7.41	8	960	1418	1611
	North_Adams_Har	77	38	57	+3	0.00	0	4.31	-5.53	16	965	-768	1611
	Norwood	77	30	55	-5	0.00	0	1.05	-6.79	11	1000	1460	1652
	Pittsfield	76	36	56	+2	0.00	0	4.24	-5.64	14	910	1031	1556
	Plymouth	77	36	59	-2	0.00	0	2.10	-6.97	9	1017	1425	1668
	Taunton_4NW	79	38	60	+1	0.00	0	2.71	-6.71	8	949	1466	1389
	Westfield_Barne	79	38	60	+5	0.00	0	2.81	-6.25	9	1169	-806	1829
	West_Otis	77	39	58	+4	0.00	0	3.15	-2.10	8	610	1272	960
	Worcester	74	42	59	+3	0.00	0	1.90	-7.37	11	1047	1091	1703
	Worthington	74	33	55	-1	0.00	0	4.38	-5.26	15	818	-994	1461
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	78	45	63	+1	0.00	0	15.39	-5.50	49	2712	+358	4390
	Providence	80	42	63	+3	0.00	0	17.78	-3.83	47	3111	+480	4822
	Westerly-Wester	80	43	62	+2	0.00	0	14.68	-8.45	45	2695	+267	4369
	Woonsocket	77	37	60	+2	0.00	0	15.16	-8.26	45	2933	+497	4624
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	78	50	65	+3	0.00	0	14.19	-8.16	51	3295	+536	5013
	Danbury_AP	79	39	60	+2	0.00	0	18.94	-7.90	48	2861	+350	4555
	Hartford_Bradle	80	40	61	+1	0.00	0	18.45	-5.04	58	3203	+511	4909
	Meriden-Meriden	82	41	64	+5	0.00	0	9.96	16.80	44	3126	+668	4820
	Norfolk	74	36	56	+2	0.00	0	20.67	-6.85	62	2324	+442	3935
	Norwich	80	41	62	+2	0.00	0	13.74	11.04	41	3018	+402	4719
	Staffordville	76	38	58	+2	0.00	0	20.57	-4.17	43	2377	+216	4001
	Thomaston_Dam	77	36	58	+1	0.00	0	17.06	-8.75	61	2762	+563	4436
	West_Thompson_L	77	36	59	+2	0.00	0	15.82	-9.13	47	2576	+388	4239
	Willimantic	80	38	61	+5	0.00	0	16.26	-8.48	50	3029	+868	4724

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Sunny, warm weather for haying, chopping corn, and farm activities. Still very dry. Some hay producers were not able to get a third cutting. Well attended "Celebrating Agriculture" event on Saturday, September 26th, with people coming to have fun while learning about dairying, forestry, livestock husbandry, and supporting local farms while eating local foods and seeing new and old farm equipment. Many volunteers made the day possible.

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert

Corn silage harvest is progressing rapidly - almost 2 weeks early at this point according to farmer estimates. Quality is off, due to blight and dry conditions, but tonnage is reported to be normal to "a little above" normal.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Northern), Donald M. Audibert

Most farmers are done harvesting their grain. Potato harvest is approximately half done. Doing fall tillage where grain was harvested. Had some light frost a couple of mornings. Very dry and expecting some much needed rain this Tuesday. Potato crop yield and quality looks good. Some producers stopped harvesting for a couple of days due to skinning.

AROOSTOOK (Southern), Doreen Conlogue

Potato harvest is in full swing, crop looks good. This week's forecast is calling for some rain Tuesday into Wednesday but the rest of the week looks perfect for digging potatoes!

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Dry weather has everyone on the ground. Potato harvest is in full swing. Above average yields and quality so far. Broccoli harvest will continue for a couple more weeks. Grain harvest is almost complete. Most operations reporting record yields.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Beautiful but dry weather continues. The warmth earlier in the month kept apples from coloring up even though they were ripe. Late sweet corn was pushed ahead of schedule so local, sweet corn will be done soon. Hay is being cut just for silage at this point. Corn silage yields look good. We need rain.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

A killing frost has hit. Corn silage harvest is now moving fast. There appears to be some big rain events on the horizon.

PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Widespread hard frosts have ended the growing season for vegetable crops. Potato and corn silage harvest in full swing.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moeus

Some corn growers are reporting average to above average silage production. Several have noticed more weeds than usual, possibly attributed to the higher temps in August. Producers are reporting dry, warm weather. September provided the perfect growing conditions for corn.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Another great week for harvesting activities.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

This was a week of seasonable temperatures, but again, no rain. Cranberry color is progressing well with the cooler nights and early varieties are being harvested.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/HILLSBOROUGH/MERRIMACK, Donna Juneau

A dry week with temperatures finally turning seasonal. Producers have been in the fields chopping corn. Corn yields reportedly vary from fair to good.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

No hard frosts yet, but getting very close. Difficult getting fall cover crops established due to lack of rain.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Dry, sunny conditions all week, with the first frost on Sunday morning. Corn chopping well under way. Third cutting haylage and bales are pretty much done with a little bit of the fourth cutting being taken here and there. Veggies still doing well, with mostly fall crops showing up in stands, etc. PYO apples are doing great.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Silage corn harvest begins as weather continues fair and dry, very good haying conditions this week. Farms are saying it would have been nice to see this past September weather in July. Soybeans are now dropping leaves as pods are filling out. Scattered frosts towards the end of week were reported. Splashes of color in higher elevations and further north. Swamp maples are turning red there are lots of wild apples.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

Temperatures dropped to the low 40's most nights this week, but no reports of frost so far.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Morning showers on the 20th delivered about 1/4 inch of rain. Field conditions for the week remained good for haying, and chopping corn. Shorter days, cool morning temperatures, and heavy morning fog has slowed the drying of hay, but farmers have been taking advantage of the good weather conditions. Corn harvest is ramping up. Corn producers are skipping some fields, giving them a few more days to mature before harvesting. Vegetable operations are still offering sweet corn, along with an assortment of locally grown, high quality fresh produce.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Fruit: Another fantastic weekend for farm stands and apple Pick-Your-Own (PYO) operations. Apple harvest is in full swing with most growers picking McIntosh and Gala and starting on Cortland. Peach harvest is completed and fall raspberries harvest continues. **Vegetables:** Great weather and good demand for all vegetable continues. Irrigating crops that have not been harvested. Farmers are harvesting a wide array of vegetables including: cabbage, kale, Brussel Sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins along with the tail end of warm season crops. The warm-season crops harvest including tomatoes, peppers, sweet corn and beans is almost completed. Farmers kept busy disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields. **Field Crops:** Silage corn harvest in full swing. The second and third cuttings of hay and haylage continues.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting fall raspberries, many apple varieties, pears, blackberries, and an array of vegetables (warm and cool season crops) including winter squashes, potatoes and root crops, sweet corn, greens, tomatoes. Cleaning vegetable fields, planting cover crops. Chopping corn and haying. It has been quite dry with no rain for several weeks. Nights are much colder.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Gehly

Last week was unseasonably warm with high temperatures in the mid-60s to mid-70s with overnight lows in the 40s. Farmers kept busy harvesting corn for silage. The dry field conditions made for easy harvesting. Producers are reporting good yields. The dry hay harvest is winding down. Producers reported low yields during first cut; however, good growing conditions during the summer resulted in an overall average crop. Fall vegetables are available at farm stands and farmers markets along with many summer vegetables including zucchini, tomatoes, kale, sweet corn, and eggplant. Vegetable farmers were also busy preparing harvested fields for winter. Apples are plentiful with many orchards keeping busy with PYO operations. Available varieties include Honey Crisp, Cortland, and Macoun.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

It's been very dry throughout most of the State. Hope to get some rain this week. It's supposed to be a rainy week, but haven't seen anything yet. Potatoes are being harvested and should start storing winter potatoes within the next week or so. Apple picking is going great. There are still plenty of vegetables around. Sweet corn is still plentiful; it was planted late in the spring and is of good quality. Cover crop is being put in for the winter. It's not germinating because we need rain. Pastures are pretty well gone because of the lack of rain in the past few weeks.

VERMONT

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Another dry week in Franklin County has allowed for continued hay harvest and corn harvest well underway. Corn is still hesitant to mature to milkline stage for ideal quality conditions. Ears have developed very well and ear to stalk ratios are great. There is not a lot of tonnage; however, there is good quality where corn has matured. Much hay is still going in and if weather participates, should be able to get some harvest after corn. This is a situation for optimum soil nutrients to hold the grass and legumes through the winter. Vine crops are still coming in from the gardens with potatoes and onions drying in the garages.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

For the first time this season, the area had a full week without rain and autumn is definitely in the air. The temperatures were much cooler and Friday night brought the first widespread frost. Activity this week included third and fourth cut hay harvest and the beginnings of the corn harvest. Most corn has matured and the moisture content is dropping. This should bring the corn harvest into full swing this coming week.